

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 CAPE T 00097 241207Z

ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W

-----241208Z 021179 /12

O 241120Z JAN 77

FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 5634

S E C R E T CAPE TOWN 0097

NODIS

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY SCHAUFELLE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR RH

SUBJ: RHODESIAN REPORT ON RICHARD-SMITH MEETING

OF JANUARY 24

REF: CAPE TOWN 0095

1. HAWKINS PHONED THE DCM THIS MORNING IN THE ABSENCE OF THE AMBASSADOR TO BRIEF HIM ON A TELEPHONE REPORT HE HAD RECEIVED FROM SALISBURY. HAWKINS SAID THAT THE SITUATION FOLLOWING RICHARD'S TALKS WITH IAN SMITH OVER THE WEEKEND DID NOT LOOK GOOD. SMITH HAD DECIDED, AFTER A HECTIC WEEKEND OF CAREFUL STUDY AND SOLICITATION OF A GREAT DEAL OF ADVICE, THAT THE PROPOSALS RICHARD PUT FORWARD DID NOT SEEM TO FORM A BASIS FOR FURTHER DISCUSSIONS. SMITH EMPHASIZED THAT HE WAS NOT THEREBY BREAKING OFF TALKS, BUT HE URGED A RETURN TO THE ORIGINAL ANGLO-AMERICAN PROPOSALS.

2. IN SMITH'S VIEW, THERE HAD BEEN A BASIC SHIFT IN EMPHASIS. HE THOUGHT WHAT RICHARD HAD IN MIND WOULD QUITE CLEARLY LEAD TO THE IMMEDIATE ESTABLISHMENT OF BLACK RULE. THE PROPOSED SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS WERE NOT AT ALL ACCEPTABLE. ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS, DESPITE THE VETO

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POWER WHICH THE CHAIRMAN WAS TO HAVE, WERE NOT SATISFACTORY BECAUSE THERE ARE SO MANY ITEMS WHICH COULD NOT BE AFFECTED BY THE VETO; THE WHITES WOULD, IN FACT, NOT BE ABLE TO AFFECT DECISIONS. MOREOVER, IT IS THE VIEW OF THE MINISTER OF FINANCE, DAVID SMITH, THAT THE POTENTIAL FOR ECONOMIC CHAOS WAS VERY SUBSTANTIAL. SMITH AGAIN EMPHASIZED HE WAS NOT BREAKING OFF ANY TALKS OR DISCUSSIONS, BUT IT WAS

CLEARLY ESSENTIAL TO GET BACK TO THE PROPER BASIS, WHICH HAD BEEN ESTABLISHED BY THE ANGLO-AMERICAN FORMULA.

3. THE RHODESIANS WERE UNABLE TO AGREE WITH RICHARD THAT THE ONLY ARRANGEMENTS WHICH COULD BE SUCCESSFUL ARE THOSE WHICH ARE ACCEPTABLE TO THE FRONT LINE PRESIDENTS. IN THE RHODESIAN VIEW, THE KEY TO PERMANENT SETTLEMENT IS AGREEMENT AMONG THE BLACK AND WHITE RHODESIANS.

4. SMITH STRESSED, ACCORDING TO HAWKINS, THAT ACCEPTANCE OF RICHARD'S PROPOSALS WOULD RESULT IN A CALAMITOUS DROP IN RHODESIAN MORALE. RICHARD IS DUE TO GIVE A PRESS CONFERENCE IN SALISBURY AT ABOUT 1300 AFTER WHICH HE WILL FLY TO JOHANNESBURG. SMITH IS EXPECTED TO MAKE A STATEMENT ON RHODESIAN RADIO AND TELEVISION THIS EVENING AT 8 PM SALISBURY TIME.  
BOWDLER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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